

8. An intraocular lens according to claim 1, wherein said second portion is located substantially within said first portion.

9. An optical system capable of providing a patient having macular degeneration with the reversible choice of having the decreased visual acuity characteristic of the patient's macular degeneration but unmagnified and unrestricted peripheral vision, or having more acute but magnified vision, comprising:

an optical element having a first portion and a second portion,

said first portion including a diverging lens, and

said second portion including a converging lens,

said converging and diverging lenses being offset

from each other in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis of the eye;

means, coupled to said optical element, for supporting said optical element in the eye; and

converging lens means capable of being located outside and adjacent the eye for focusing light into the eye, in combination with said diverging lens in said optical element, to provide the patient with a magnified retinal image of a given object,

wherein when said converging lens means is located outside and adjacent the eye, the patient will have more acute but magnified vision, and when said converging lens means is not located adjacent the eye, the patient will have the decreased visual acuity characteristic of the patient's macular degeneration but unmagnified and unrestricted peripheral vision.

10. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said converging lens means is a spectacle lens.

11. An optical system according to claim 10, wherein said spectacle lens has a power of from about plus 25 to about plus 35.

12. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said diverging lens has a power of from about minus 40 to about minus 70.

13. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said converging lens has a power of from about plus 10 to about plus 22.

14. An optical system according to claim 11, wherein said diverging lens has a power of from about minus 40 to about minus 70, and

said converging lens has a power of from about plus 10 to about plus 22.

15. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said first portion and said second portion are integrally formed.

16. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said first portion is positioned substantially adjacent to said second portion.

17. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said first portion is located substantially within said second portion

18. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said second portion is located substantially within said first portion.

19. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said optical element is formed of glass.

20. An optical system according to claim 9, wherein said optical element is formed of a polymeric material.

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